

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14. (cancelled)

15. (new) A metal housing (2), comprising:

a side wall (8), having a side wall surface extending substantially along a plane and facing an outside of the housing, and having a ledge (20), the ledge having a top surface, a bottom surface, and a side surface, the side surface facing the outside of the housing,

wherein the ledge has a bore (16), extending through the ledge (20) from the top surface to the bottom surface, and configured to receive a fixing screw (6),

wherein the side wall (8) has, at the bore (16), a recessed area (10) having a concavity oriented toward the outside of the housing and surrounded by the side wall (8),

wherein said recessed area has a surface (14) inclined relative to the plane of the side wall (8), the inclined surface (14) configured such that metal chips resulting from the fixing screw being screwed into the bore (16) are discharged, by gravity, toward an outside of the housing away from the plane of the side wall,

and wherein the bottom surface of the ledge (20) forms a top portion of the recessed area (10) and is connected to the inclined surface (14).

16. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 15, wherein the side wall (8) is substantially flat and in that the ledge (20) does not extend across the plane of the side wall.

17. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 15, wherein the side wall (8) is substantially flat, and the bottom surface of the ledge (20) is substantially perpendicular to the plane of the side wall.

18. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 15, wherein the inclined surface (14) is connected to the ledge (20) by a wall portion (12), the wall portion (12) being substantially parallel to the side wall (8).

19. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

a cap (4) forming a cover to the housing, wherein,

the cap (4) is configured to sandwich a printed circuit (22) between the cap (4) and the top surface of the ledge (20) such that the fixing screw screwed into the bore (16) traverses the printed circuit (22).

20. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 16, wherein the side wall (8) is substantially flat, and the bottom surface of the ledge (20) is substantially perpendicular to the plane of the side wall (8).

21. (new) The housing as claimed in claim 15, wherein said housing is configured to contain electronic components.

22. (new) A metal housing (2), comprising:

a side wall (8) extending along a plane in both a vertical direction and a horizontal direction, the side wall having a recessed portion (10) extending into the side wall (8) away from the plane,

the recessed portion forming a substantially concave hollow in a surface portion of the side wall, an edge portion of the hollow surrounding the recessed portion, the edge portion having two opposite vertical sides, the recessed portion having a horizontal top portion (20) and a sloped portion,

wherein the top portion (20) is substantially flat and extends into the side wall in a direction substantially perpendicular to the plane and away from the plane,

wherein the top portion (20) has a bore (16) configured to receive a screw (6),

wherein the sloped portion inclines from an end of the top portion (20) recessed a distance from the plane, to a portion of the side wall (8) at the plane, the sloped portion configured to guide metal chips, propelled by gravity and resulting from the fixing screw being screwed in, away from the housing in the vertical direction.

23. (new) The metal housing according to claim 22, wherein the bore is configured to guide the screw in a substantially vertical direction.